

REMARKS**A. Status of the Claims and Explanation of the Amendments**

Currently, claims 1-7 are pending. Claims 1, 6, and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,828,955 to Yamamoto (“Yamamoto”) in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0219306 to Wang et al. (“Wang”). Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yamamoto and Wang, in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 4,640,583 to Hoshikawa (“Hoshikawa”).

Additionally, the Examiner has objected to claims 2, 4, and 5. The Examiner objected to claims 2 and 4 for being dependent on a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent format to include all of the limitations of the rejected base claim and any intervening claims. In this paper, Applicant has not made such amendments because Applicant feels that the base claims from which claims 2 and 4 depend are allowable for the reasons set forth below. However, Applicant hereby reserves the right to make such amendments if deemed necessary at a later stage of prosecution.

The Examiner objected to claim 5, stating that although it depends from claim 1, it recites the “opposite” of a limitation found in claim 1. In this paper, Applicant has rewritten claim 5 in independent format to clarify the claim.

Applicant has also amended claim 1 to further clarify the invention. Claim 1 now recites, inter alia, a “first electrode... wherein said first electrode is made of an adhesive resin.” Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification (e.g., see page 6, lines 4-20), and in allowable claim 2. Also note that claim 2 has been amended so that the language of the claim is consistent with that of claim 1.

No new matter has been added by the amendments to the claims.

B. Applicant's Claims Are Not
Unpatentable Over the Cited References.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 6, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yamamoto, in view of Wang. Applicant also respectfully traverses the rejection of claim 3 as allegedly being unpatentable over Yamamoto and Wang, in further view of Hoshikawa. Briefly, these references, alone or in combination, do not appear to teach, disclose, or suggest all of the claim elements of Applicant's invention. Accordingly, the rejections of these claims should be withdrawn. MPEP §2143.

1. The Cited References Fail to Teach, Disclose or Suggest
A "First Electrode Made of an Adhesive Resin"

The Office Action alleges that Yamamoto discloses nearly all of the elements in Applicant's claim 1, with the exception of a first electrode that has an adhesive property. For this claim element, the Office Action relies on paragraph [0093] of Wang, which appears to discuss a "laminating a first electrode with an adhesive layer" [see, e.g. paragraph [0093], lines 3-4].

Neither reference, however, appears to teach, disclose or suggest a "first electrode made of an adhesive resin" as recited in Applicant's amended claim 1. Applicant's further submit that the mere discussion in Wang of "laminating a first electrode with an adhesive layer" is not the same as teaching a "first electrode made of an adhesive resin".

Thus, because the combination of references appears to fail to teach, disclose, or suggest all of the claim elements of Applicant's claim 1, (as well as dependent claims 6, and 7), Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). MPEP §2143.

For at least similar reasons, claim 3 is not unpatentable over the combination of Yamamoto and Wang, in view of Hoshikawa. As noted above, Yamamoto and Wang does not appear to teach, disclose, or suggest a “first electrode made of an adhesive resin”. Like Yamamoto and Wang, Hoshikawa also does not appear to teach, disclose or suggest a “first electrode made of an adhesive resin”. Accordingly, the combination of all three references does not appear to teach, disclose or suggest a “first electrode made of an adhesive resin”, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) of claim 3 should be withdrawn. MPEP §2143.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

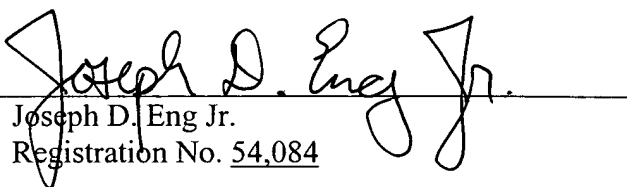
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5354. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5354. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: April 11, 2005

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